

**REMARKS**

On behalf of Applicants, the undersigned would like to thank the Examiner for courtesies extended in the interview conducted on July 18, 2007. The following is a summary of the interview.

In the interview, the undersigned discussed the patentability of claim 11 over the prior art. Claim 11 depends from claim 1 and recites that the cable further comprises an armor layer disposed on the outside of the insulative layer. This supplements claim 1 which is directed to an optical fiber cable which comprises at least one central strength member, at least one optical fiber, a metallic conductive means surrounding the fiber for transporting electrical energy through the cable and, surrounding the conductor means, an insulative layer of an insulative composition which provides improved resistance to break down upon application of an electrical field.


In rejecting claim 1 based on Casiraghi, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,278,825 B1), the Examiner is relying on the outer armor layer 3 of Casiraghi, et al. as corresponding to the claimed metallic conductor means. In order for claim 11 to have been obvious, one would have find it obvious to modify the Casiraghi, et al. cable to include a second armor layer. However, this would clearly be redundant and, therefore, unobvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art. After discussing this distinction in the interview, the Examiner and his supervisor agreed that claim 11 appeared to patentably distinguish over the prior art of record. Accordingly, to advance prosecution and without prejudice, Applicants have amended to claim 1 to include the limitation of claim 11, which has correspondingly been cancelled.

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that the application is now in condition for allowance. It is therefore respectfully requested that the application be passed to issuance at the

earliest possible convenience. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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WASHINGTON OFFICE

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